

Appi No. 10/774,474
Amdt. dated March 19, 2007
Reply to Office action of January 9, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A storage container comprising:
 - (a) a generally planar base, the base comprising a bottom portion and a pair of base panels foldably connected to the bottom portion, the bottom portion being located between each of the pair of base panels;
 - (b) a pair of opposing end panels foldably connected to the base panels; and
 - (c) a pair of opposing side panels foldably connected to the base panels and the end panels, wherein each of the pair of side panels defines a channel therein, the channel being adapted to slidably receive a first tab at a first end of the channel and a second tab at a second end of the channel, each of the first and second tabs being connected to each of the pair of base panels, wherein each side panel comprises an outer panel foldably connected to an inner panel, wherein the channel is defined between the inner and outer panels, wherein each side panel further comprises two corner panels, wherein each of the corner panels is foldably connected to the inner panel and to the end panel adjacent thereto;

wherein the storage container is foldable between a first, a second, and a third position;

wherein in the first position, the side panels and the end panels are folded to form a generally planar shape;

wherein in the second position, the side panels and the end panels are folded generally perpendicular to the base to form an open container, and

wherein in the third position, the base panels, side panels, and end panels are folded to form a closed box.

2. (Canceled)

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3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The storage container of claim 4, wherein the base has a rectangular shape.

6. (Original) The storage container of claim 5, wherein in said first position, the side panels are folded outwardly and the end panels are folded inwardly.

7. (Original) The storage container of claim 4, wherein each corner panel comprises a pivot panel with five sub panels.

8. (Original) The storage container of claim 7, wherein the sub panels are defined by three crease lines that intersect at a point.

9. (Original) The storage container of claim 8, wherein the crease lines comprise a first crease line, a second crease line and a bisecting crease line, the first and second crease lines extend generally diagonally across the pivot panel, and the bisecting crease line extends generally vertically from the point.

10. (Original) The storage container of claim 4, wherein when the storage container is in the second position the corner panels are in a generally upright position relative to the bottom portion.

11. (Original) The storage container of claim 9, wherein the sub panels collapse inwardly and downwardly about the first crease line when the storage container is positioned in the first position.

12. (Original) The storage container of claim 9, wherein when the storage container is in the third position the points are pressed inwardly and the sub panels are collapsed

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around the bisecting line, the sub panels are then collapsed about the first and second crease lines so that the base panel is positioned generally perpendicular to the bottom portion.

13. (Original) The storage container of claim 1, further comprising a pair of handle panels, each of the handle panels is foldably connected to each of the end panels.

14. (Currently Amended) A storage container comprising:

(a) a generally planar base, the base comprising a bottom portion and a pair of base panels foldably connected to the bottom portion, the bottom portion being located between each of the pair of base panels;

(b) a pair of opposing end panels foldably connected to the base panels; and

(c) a pair of opposing side panels foldably connected to the base panels and the end panels, each of the pair of side panels defining a channel therein, wherein each side panel comprises an outer panel foldably connected to an inner panel, wherein the channel is defined between the inner and outer panels, wherein each side panel further comprises two corner panels, wherein each of the corner panels is foldably connected to the inner panel and to the end panel adjacent thereto;

(d) a plurality of tabs connected to the base panels;

wherein the channel slidably receives one of the plurality of tabs at each end thereof
the channel, the tab being connected to the base panel, the plurality of tabs being
adapted to position the side panels in a generally upright position when the end panels and base panels move between an open position and a closed position.

15. (Original) The storage container of claim 14, wherein the storage container is adapted to fold into a substantially planar position.

16. (Original) The storage container of claim 15, wherein when the storage container is in the substantially planar position the end panels are folded inwards towards the base and the side panels are generally folded outward away from the base.

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17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The storage container of claim 17, wherein the base has a generally rectangular shape.

20. (Original) The storage container of claim 18, wherein each corner panel comprises a pivot panel with five sub panels.

21. (Original) The storage container of claim 20, wherein the sub panels are defined by three crease lines that intersect at a point.

22. (Original) The storage container of claim 21, wherein the crease lines comprise a first crease line, a second crease line and a bisecting crease line, the first and second crease lines extend generally diagonally across the pivot panel, and the bisecting crease line extends generally vertically from the point.

23. (Original) The storage container of claim 20, wherein when the storage container is in the open position the corner panels are in a generally upright position relative to the bottom portion.

24. (Original) The storage container of claim 18, wherein when the storage container is in the open position the end panels and the side panels are folded generally perpendicular to the base.

25. (Original) The storage container of claim 22, wherein the sub panels collapse inwardly and downwardly about the first crease line when the storage container is positioned in the substantially planar position.

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26. (Original) The storage container of claim 22, wherein when the storage container is in the closed position the points are pressed inwardly and the sub panels are collapsed around the bisecting line, the sub panels are then collapsed about the first and second crease lines so that the base panels are positioned generally perpendicular to the bottom portion.
27. (Original) The storage container of claims 14, further comprising a pair of handle panels, each of the handle panels is foldably connected to each of the end panels.
28. (Currently Amended) The storage container of claims 1 and 14, wherein the storage container is formed from a blank.
29. (Original) The storage container of claim 28, wherein the blank is made from corrugated cardboard.
30. (Original) The storage container of claim 28, wherein the blank is made from non-corrugated cardboard.
31. (Original) The storage container of claim 27, wherein the storage container is made from plastic.
32. (Original) The storage container of claim 27, wherein the storage container is made from a multi-layered laminated material.
33. (Original) The storage container of claim 27, wherein the storage container is made from water resistant material.
34. (Original) The storage container of claim 27, wherein the storage container is made from anti-bacterial material.

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35. (New) The storage container of claim 14, wherein the storage container is formed from a blank.

36. (New) The storage container of claim 35, wherein the blank is made from corrugated cardboard.

37. (New) The storage container of claim 35, wherein the blank is made from non-corrugated cardboard.